

HOUSE RESOLUTION 194  
By Cobb

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of the late Dave Spence  
upon the occasion of his induction into the  
Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration  
Hall of Fame.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should honor the memory of a remarkable professional who during his lifetime rendered valuable service to the Tennessee Walking Horse industry, one of the Volunteer State's largest and most successful enterprises in terms of agriculture, commerce, tourism, and equine sports; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration is the premier event for the Tennessee Walking Horse; spanning eleven days and nights prior to Labor Day and encompassing exciting competition, the Celebration annually awards more than \$650,000 in prize money and crowns the breed's World Grand Champion and some twenty World Champions; and

WHEREAS, in 2006, the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration (TWHNC) will be inducting several worthy people into the TWHNC Hall of Fame during a gala evening at Calsonic Arena on the Celebration grounds in Shelbyville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, the TWHNC Hall of Fame ceremony is held biennially to specially honor and recognize those sterling professionals who, "have made significant and outstanding contributions to the Walking Horse industry and the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration," during "fifteen or more years involvement with the breed"; and

WHEREAS, the exemplary 2006 class of TWHNC Hall of Fame inductees most appropriately includes the late Dave Spence, who was renowned and respected throughout the Walking Horse industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Spence, hailing from Fosterville, was truly a gifted announcer, ringmaster, and judge whose presence both in and out of the ring will be missed; and

WHEREAS, Dave Spence served the Walking Horse world with the utmost probity and integrity and performed his duties with singular ability; he served as a great promoter for the Walking Horse industry and was an exceptional entertainer in the show ring; and

WHEREAS, as a teen, Dave Spence attended shows with a trainer and cut his teeth cooling the horses down after their turn in the show ring. As his love for the industry grew, so did his ability; he would later become a long-tenured member of the Celebration's center ring staff; and

WHEREAS, after graduating from high school in Bell Buckle, Mr. Spence attended Middle Tennessee State University and served valiantly as a proud member of the United States Army from 1951-1953 prior to beginning a career as a successful Middle Tennessee businessman; and

WHEREAS, Dave Spence donated his time and energies to many different civic and community organizations; he was a valued member of the Jaycees and served on the boards of Junior Achievement, the Nashville Mental Health Association, Family and Children's Services, the Middle Tennessee Multiple Sclerosis Society, and the United Givers Fund, among many others; and

WHEREAS, sadly, Mr. Spence has passed from this world to a far better existence. He is sorely missed by his wife, Delores England Spence; his daughter, Kim Spence Dean; his grandchildren, Briton and Hanna Dean; and many dear friends and loved ones; and

WHEREAS, by means of his induction into the TWHNC Hall of Fame, Dave Spence has posthumously earned the ultimate accolade given by the Walking Horse industry, and we should

pay homage to his life of purpose, commitment, and accomplishment on this very special occasion; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, that we hereby honor the memory of the late Dave Spence on the occasion of his posthumous induction into the Tennessee Walking Horse National Celebration Hall of Fame, as we warmly remember his consummate career spent in service to the Walking Horse industry and the State of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.